

Department of Conservation and Recreation

## Visitor Notice Douglas State Forest

Over the past several months, we have been working with the Douglas Police Department to implement procedures for the 2012 season in order to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for all of our visitors. We appreciate your cooperation in adhering to the changes listed below:

<u>Park Closure Due to Capacity</u>: Douglas State Forest is a popular facility and often reaches capacity on hot summer days. Once the parking areas are filled, the park will be closed for a minimum of three hours before additional cars are allowed in. Park Staff will post the reopening time at the entrance gate and on sign boards leading to the park. No cars will be let into the park until the designated time.

<u>Turnaround Eliminated</u>: The Douglas Police requested that the turnaround at the park entrance be eliminated due to traffic congestion on Wallum Road. When the park is at capacity, cars will be waved past the entrance and not allowed to stop along the road or at the entrance to turn around.

**No Parking Along Wallum Road**: Vehicle parking is not allowed along Wallum Road and cars will be ticketed and towed.

<u>Notification of Closur</u>e: Visitors who wish to follow MassDCR on Twitter, and receive a "tweet" when Douglas State Forest reaches capacity, may do so by creating a Twitter account at www.Twitter.com. Enter "MassDCR" into the search field, and next to "MassDCR" in the list that's displayed, then click on the "FOLLOW" button – the one with the blue twittering bird.

<u>Park Closure</u> - Daily, End of the Day: Douglas State Forest closes at 8:00 p.m. Any vehicle remaining in the parking lot after the park closes will be subject to a ticket and tow. The waterfront area will close when the lifeguards leave the beach at 7:30 p.m. and visitors are expected to pack belongings and leave the park by 8:00 p.m.

**Boat Ramp**: The boat ramp is strictly for boat access and cannot be used to access the park after hours. The ramp is signed for "boat trailers only" and will be enforced. Non boaters must leave the park by the 8:00 p.m. closing.

<u>Designated Swimming Area</u>: DCR's designated swimming area is marked off by ropes and buoys and is guarded 7 days a week. Visitors are not allowed to swim outside these designated areas. Visitors are also not allowed to jump off or swim near any rocks. Violators may be removed from the park.

For additional park information or for a print friendly copy of this information please visit:

WWW.http://www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/central/doug.htm